

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) An expert Committee set up in the past by the Government had estimated losses of foodgrains at various stages as under:-

Threshing	:	1.68%
Processing	:	0.92%
Transport	:	0.15%
Rodent	:	2.50%
Birds	:	0.85%
Insects	:	2.55%
Moisture	:	0.68%
Total	:	9.33%

(b) To minimise foodgrains losses, the following main techniques have been developed and propagated through Save Grain Campaign:-

- (i) Development of several designs of metallic bins and non-metallic storage structure;
- (ii) Development of a fumigant mixture viz. EDB plus for insect control;
- (iii) Standardisation of dosages of pesticides such as Aluminium Phosphide, Ethylene Dibromide, Malathion and DDVP;
- (iv) Testing and standardisation of dosages of several formulations and rodenticides;
- (v) Development of a number of codes of practices for safe storage of foodgrains;

- (vi) Training of farmers, village level workers etc. in scientific storage of foodgrains; and
- (vii) Publicity and dissemination of information through radio talks, TV programmes, press reports, exhibitions, film/slide shows etc.

Reserved Posts lying Vacant in Public Sector Undertaking

4368. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the PRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether about two lakh posts reserved for the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various categories are lying vacant in the Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the special campaign being launched by the Government to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) NO, Sir. Only 12,149 vacancies reserved for SC/ST, including backlog vacancies, in various categories are lying unfilled in PSUs as on 31.3.1991.

(b) The Special Recruitment Drives for filling up of the vacancies reserved for SC/ST in PSUs were launched in 1989 and 1990. Another Specail Recruitment Drive to fill up the vacancies reported, 1,542 vacancies have already been filled.

Joint Project for Polio Vaccine

4369. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the PRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint sector project was initiated for manufacture of polio vaccine in 1988 with the participation of the Department of Biotechnology, IPCL and Pasteur Merieux of France;

(b) if so, the present status of the said project;

(c) whether the Union Government have approved the said project; and

(d) whether the Union Government propose to induct the products of such a project in the National Immunisation Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. A joint sector project to manufacture viral vaccines including polio vaccine (inactivated) was approved by Government of India in March 1989. The Joint Venture has been promoted by Department of Biotechnology (GOI). Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Baroda and Pasteur Merieux Serums & Vaccins Lyon, France.

(b) A company in the joint sector namely 'Indian Vaccines Corporation Limited' (IVCOL) was incorporated under the Companies Act. Land for the project has been acquired at Manesar Village, Gurgaon District, Haryana. Civil construction of the plant and utilities has made major progress. Recruitment and training of personnel and procurement of equipment and machinery have also commenced.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has already approved the product mix of the company. However, it is mandatory that the indigenous products from the company need to be tested and certified by the Drugs Control Authority before use in the country.

(d) The IVCOL will be producing the following vaccines:-

Inactivated Polio Vaccine 10 million

Measles Vaccine 20 million

Rabies Vaccine 2 million

DPTP* (Quadruple) 40 million

(* Only as formulations using IPV manufactured by IVCOL and DPT procured from other manufacturers in India.)

The measles vaccine to be manufactured by IVCOL is already an approved product and will be introduced into the Immunization Programme after mandatory quality certification by the Drugs Control Authorities. The introduction of IPV and DPTP into the Immunization Programme will be decided based on the results of the ongoing feasibility studies. Since rabies is not part of the National Programme, there is no question of inducting the improved tissue culture rabies vaccine to be manufactured by IVCOL in the Programme.

Development of Ridge in Delhi

4370. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGARHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first master plan of Delhi envisaged a grandiose idea of developing the Ridge in Delhi on the pattern of the Central Park in New York;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing the same;

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to give the Ridge due importance as a natural forest and to preserve and protect it;